



Eco Rep Updates

Princeton Eco Rep Program welcomes fourteen new student leaders

Our Eco Rep family is growing! This month the Office of Sustainability hired fourteen new Eco Rep Leaders, expanding the team to twenty-five. The team convened for the first time to onboard new members, including a sustainability-themed tour of Princeton's campus, comprehensive training on sustainability projects that will engage students throughout the Spring Semester, environmental justice issues, and future opportunities to collaborate with departments across Princeton.

This semester, the Eco Rep team will be providing bin monitoring and compost support to campus events in collaboration with ODUS and other departments. Interested in having the Eco Rep team support your event? Email Kitty Helm at kittyhelm@princeton.edu for more information.

In March and April, the Eco Rep team will also be conducting Recycling 101 trainings for departmental staff and faculty. This initiative will give staff at Princeton the tools and resources they need to host more sustainable events within their departments, and helps the university reach the goals laid out in the [Sustainability Action Plan](#).

If you would like to schedule a Recycling 101 training in your department, email Matt Brinn at mb3570@princeton.edu.



Recycling at Princeton

Hard to Recycle Items

New collection bins to collect hard to recycle items are stationed across from the **Eco-Lounge, Frist 118**.

For the Facilities Department, an additional collection bin is located at the **Front Entrance of MacMillan**, across the hallway from the **Office of Capital Projects**.

What Can be Recycled Now?



1. Thin Plastics: Bubble wrap & plastic mailers, air pillows, clean & dry produce bags, bread bags, plastic grocery bags, ziplock bags, thin plastic product packaging, etc.

2.E-Waste: Cell phones, cases, tablets, charging cords, inkjet & LaserJet cartridges, Digital Cameras, PDA's, iPods & MP3's, rechargeable batteries, & electronic accessories

For more information on recycling electronics, email resourcerecovery@princeton.edu or call (609) 258-2347.

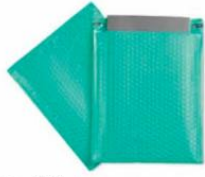
K-Cups

K-Cycle Program - WB Mason provides this service for free to all University departments who meet the following criteria:

1. Have a WB Mason free rental machine or a Keurig machine and purchase all K-cup products from WB Mason.
2. Email [Donna Serafine](mailto:Donna.Serafine@princeton.edu) with your department name & "K-Cycle Set-up Request" as the subject line. In the body of the email, include your Department name, email address, office address, phone number and the approximate number of K-cups you purchase monthly.

Once enrolled, the K-Cycle collection boxes will be sent to your department.

RECYCLE CLEAN & DRY PLASTIC FILM.



Bubble wrap & plastic mailers



Air pillows



Clean & dry produce bags



Bread bags



Grocery bags



Food storage bags



Dry cleaning bags



Newspaper bags



Case wrap



Product overwrap

**SUSTAINABLE
PRINCETON.**
LEADING COMMUNITY CHANGE

SORRY, WE CAN'T ACCEPT



Compostable bags



Six pack rings



Crinkly wrappers with no stretch



Frozen food bags



Scan to learn more about recycling plastic film



Research and Policy Updates

Seminar: "The Role of Carbon Capture in Meeting Net-zero Carbon Goals"

On February 16, speaker Jennifer Wilcox, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, held a seminar on carbon capture, storage, and carbon dioxide renewal technologies. Previously, she was the James H.

Manning Chaired Professor of Chemical Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. She was also a senior fellow at the World Resources Institute, where she led the Carbon Removal Program.

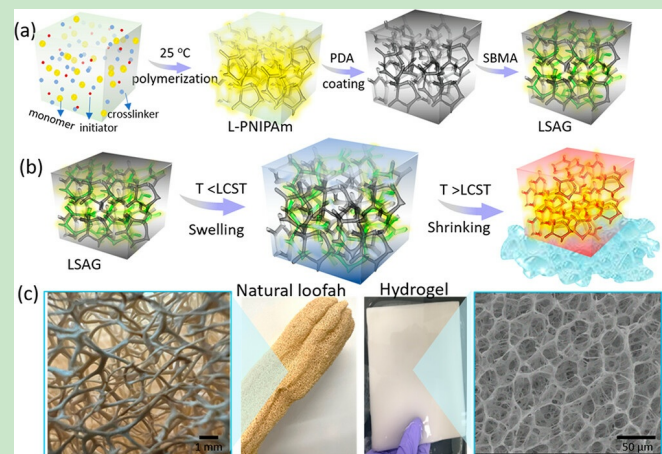
The focus of the presentation was on the current administration's goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions in the United States by 2050, specifically the role that carbon capture will play in achieving this goal. The plans include cutting greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030, and reducing the environmental impact of fossil fuel energy production and use.



Hydrogel for Purification: New Loofah-Inspired Gel Uses Sunlight to Purify Water

The [Priestley Laboratory](#), in the chemical and biological engineering department, has developed a new hydrogel, inspired by loofahs, that successfully purifies water at a high enough rate to meet consumer needs.

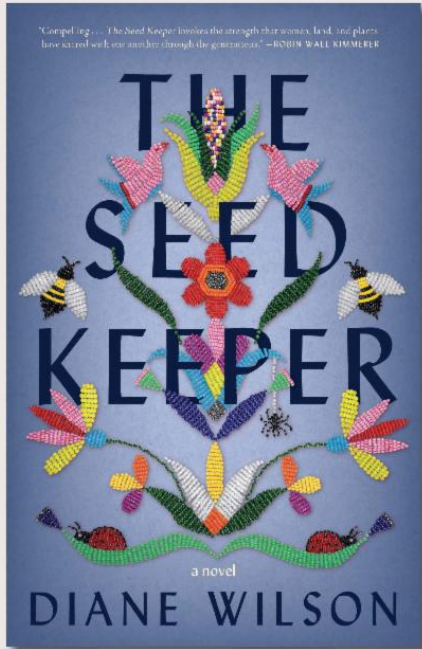
Previously, the laboratory had produced a pufferfish-inspired hydrogel that purifies water using sunlight. This new hydrogel is an improvement on the original design, capable of purifying water at a high enough rate to meet a person's daily water consumption demand.



[Read the Full Article](#)

Upcoming Events

AUTHOR TALK



Diane Wilson in Conversation with Tessa Desmond

March 8, 2023, 7:00 - 8:30PM, Princeton Public Library

Author Diane Wilson, a writer, educator, and environmental advocate, who published *The Seed Keeper* in 2021, is visiting Princeton to talk about her books in conversation with Tessa Desmond from the Efron Center for the Study of America. The event is scheduled for March 8th, from 7:00 - 8:30PM in the Princeton Public Library.

Documentary Preview

"Dark Sacred Night" is a special storytelling project by the Princeton University Office of Sustainability, premiering Spring 2023. It examines light pollution as taught by Princeton University astrophysicist Gaspar Bakos, one of a growing number of experts championing simple, common sense changes to outdoor lighting that can dramatically reduce light pollution.

More than 80 percent of the world's population, and 99 percent of Americans and Europeans, now live under light polluted skies. Many people live and die without ever seeing the Milky Way. New studies show that excessive amounts of outdoor lighting contribute to a range of human health problems, squander energy, and have a dramatic negative impact on wildlife, particularly birds and insects.

As Bakos teaches, light pollution is a problem that impacts far more than astronomical research and stargazers. Bakos's approach is to promote change one streetlight at a time. Simple solutions to light pollution can be summed up in a few words: make lights dimmer, shield lights so they only shine downward, and use warm-colored lightbulbs.



New Staff Members

Melissa Jean Andrie, Office Coordinator

Melissa now serves as an Office Coordinator for the Office of Sustainability, coordinating with partners within Facilities and across campus to achieve the goals outlined in Princeton's Sustainability Action Plan, and more broadly in the community, region, across the nation and internationally.

Background:

Melissa has worked at Princeton University for the last 6 years and joins the Office of Sustainability from the Department of English where she served as Events and Office Coordinator. Melissa started at Princeton as an Administrative Assistant in the Financial Service Center.



Previously she worked as Stage Manager for the Peterborough Players Second Company, and the Queen's Company- an all-female theater group based in New York City. Melissa also managed an original puppetry project entitled Growing Up Linda which was performed as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Melissa has served as Line Producer for five amateur film productions and has worked with GRB Entertainment, and Gerald Stevens Inc. as a part of their Development and Production departments.

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Fun Fact

Melissa has an identical twin sister who also works at Princeton as a chef. You may run into at one of our dining halls.

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Office 109 MacMillan Annex

Andrew D'Amico, Assistant Director for Operational Engagement & Impact Analysis

As Assistant Director for the Office of Sustainability, Andrew works to integrate sustainability and environmental justice into campus operations and strategy. He partners with administrative departments to identify and implement process improvements that advance Sustainability Action Plan Objectives. Andrew also leads the Office's performance measurement and reporting efforts, turning data into actionable insights that inform decision-making and optimize sustainability. He is a member of the Data Analytics Working Group and the Ivy+ Sustainability Consortium.



Background:

Andrew is a project manager and data professional with experience in philanthropy and higher education. He's spent his career helping public service institutions activate their data to generate impact and advance their missions. Prior to Princeton Andrew served as a grants analyst at Bloomberg Philanthropies, where he managed philanthropic data, streamlined internal processes, and collaborated with nonprofit and city grantees.

Andrew earned his MPA in Nonprofit Management and Policy and undergraduate degree from New York University. For his graduate capstone project Andrew traveled to Chile, and developed an impact measurement framework and funding strategy for early-stage Latin American social entrepreneurs.

He lives with his wife Savannah and dog Brandi in Bloomfield, NJ.

Fun Fact

Andrew is a drummer and a record collector—his most played vinyl is Aretha Franklin's Young, Gifted, and Black. He once appeared on an award-winning comedy podcast hosted by a former Daily Show correspondent and NPR host, and the book he reads again and again is Cloud Atlas by David Mitchell.

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